nationalgrid

Amy G. Rabinowitz
Assistant General Counsel

May 17, 2006

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: D.T.E. 06-22

Dear Secretary Cottrell:

On behalf of Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company d/b/a National Grid, I am providing our response to Department Information Request DTE 1-3.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Amy G. Rabinowitz

cc: Joseph W. Rogers, Office of the Attorney General

Information Request DTE 1-3

Request:

Last year the Company provided information to a series of information requests, that information was then compiled by MDTE staff in the attached electronic EXCEL spreadsheet. With reference to the attached electronic EXCEL spreadsheet (DTE 1-3 data file.xls), please perform the following items 1 through 17 and return an updated electronic EXCEL spreadsheet. If necessary expand the spreadsheet to include new circuits. Note it is not expected that data modifications will occur for prior years, however, if modifications are necessary please highlight each and provide appropriate explanations.

1. Column G, fill out.
2. Column H, if appropriate, modify this information for 2005.
3. Column J, if appropriate, reflect a note if a circuit is new, reconfigured or retired during 2005.
4. Column K, identify the devices (for example Recloser 15-E1-2 or Breaker 13-L1-2) on the specific circuit during 2005.
5. Column L, identify the level of automation associated with the devices in the previous column.
6. Column T, update with information for 2005.
7. Column Z, update with information for 2005.
8. Column AA, update with information for 2005.
9. Column AH, update with information for 2005.
10. Column AN, update with information for 2005.
11. Column AT, update with information for 2005.
12. Column AZ, update with information for 2005.
13. Column BD, update with information for 2004-2005.
14. Column BS, update with information for 2005.
15. Column BW, update with information for 2004-2005.
16. Column CL, update with information for 2005.
17. Column CP, update with information for 2004-2005.

Response:

Please refer to the accompanying Excel file named "DTE 1-3 data file.xls."

The Company has modified its response from last year to provide the information that it believes will best answer the Department's request this year. At the time the Company created last year's response, the Company believed that it was a one-time request, and the Company simply extracted every item in our database. The Company now understands that the Department will be requiring this information annually. Consequently, the Company is putting plans in place to automatically produce this report in a manner that will require much less manual intervention.

Information Request DTE 1-3 (continued)

During the preparation of this request, the Company found several issues with the data in last year's response, which the Company has addressed. Accordingly, the list of circuits included in the accompanying Excel file is different from the data in last year's file. The changes to the file include the following:

1. In order to report data on a town basis in the Company's Interruption and Disturbance System (IDS), the system tracks portions of feeders in addition to whole feeders. In last year's filing, the feeder portions were listed as whole feeders. In this year's filing, the Company does not list feeder portions as whole feeders. Instead, in four instances, the Company has amalgamated feeder portions into whole feeders.
2. There was one feeder that was incorrectly named in the Company's Geographical Information System (GIS) in 2004. That data has been moved to the correct feeder in this year's file.
3. There was one feeder in last year's report that the Company now considers to be part of another feeder. The Company has transferred load and reliability data to the resulting feeder
4. Last year's file included ninety-three supply feeders, which the Company has removed from this year's data file. Supply feeders are not operated in the same manner as radial distribution feeders. These feeders are often operated in network fashion and supply multiple substations. They can be supplied from different sources. They can feed different customers throughout the year. These feeders are often operated in network fashion and supply multiple substations. Therefore, the SAIDI and SAIFI values do not reflect the actual performance of these feeders during the year since an accurate number of customers served cannot be maintained.
5. Five feeders were owned by other utilities.
6. Three feeders were owned by municipals.
7. Seven feeders were in the Company's database, but were not in service.
8. In 2002, there were sixty-four feeders that showed zero customers served. This is an issue with historical information in the database itself. The Company filled the customers served value with the 2003 values to provide a proxy for the customers fed five years ago on these feeders.
9. There were ten feeders in last year's list that are "back-up" feeders or "get away" only feeders, which have been removed from the data file. These feeders do not serve customers in the "normal" configuration; they only serve customers when there is a fault on the primary circuit or an abnormal condition.
10. The Company has also removed feeders whose performance has been reallocated to a new feeder.
11. There were five feeders that only fed one customer. These feeders are not reportable under the Department's rules, and thus have been removed from the file.
12. One feeder was largely in Rhode Island (RI) and has been removed from the file (only nineteen customers in MA and the bulk of the miles in RI).
13. In last year's filing, the peak load numbers in columns "V" through "Y" were in Amperes instead of MVA. The data has been corrected in the attached file to reflect peak load in MVA.

Information Request DTE 1-3 (continued)

Please see the following additional notes regarding the attached file:

The Company maintains substations with both "open bus" (distribution circuit(s) normally supplied by a single transformer) and "closed bus" (distribution circuit(s) normally supplied by multiple transformers) layouts. In addition, automatic response to system contingencies can include the transfer of distribution circuit supply from one station transformer to another. Thus, the Company does not maintain, nor is there a straightforward manner to create, a list linking transformer identifiers with distribution circuit identifiers in the manner required to populate column "G" of the attached spreadsheet.

In column "J", a circuit was designated as "reconfigured" if the number of customers served increased or decreased from 2004 to 2005 by: (a) 50 or more for circuits of 4kV and below, or (b) 200 or more for circuits of 13kV and above.

The heading for column "L" has been changed to "Remote Control."

Prepared by or under the supervision of: Cheryl A. Warren